

## Local Utilities Help WeCAN Clients

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Responding to families in crisis, local energy providers are stepping in after increased demand resulted in the WeCAN Warm Hearts, Warm Homes program being suspended in December. Since 2002, WeCAN - Watauga Crisis Assistance Network - has been providing help to community members facing heating fuel shortages, utility cutoffs and eviction during the frigid winter season. So far, Appalachian Energy, Blossman Gas, Freeman Gas, G&B Energy, Mountain Oil, Suburban Propane and Wallace Propane have offered a flat rate per gallon or percentage discount to qualified WeCAN clients. Jenn Alexander, WeCAN Coordinator, said "We are thrilled that these local companies are giving back to their community in this way," and said, "The generosity and support of these companies cannot be overstated, they are directly helping individuals, families and children stay warm during these frigid winter months."